10th August 1929]

Construction of a cotton spinning mill in the Coimbatore Jail.

* 314 Q.—Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Department of Industries prepared a plan for the construction of a cotton spinning mill in the Central Jail, Coimbatore;

(*b*) whether the Deputy Director of Industries examined the plan before forwarding it to the Executive Engineer;

(*c*) whether the Executive Engineer subsequently sent a complaint for furnishing him with a defective plan, and if so, what action was taken by the department;

(*d*) how many visits the present Deputy Director has paid to the Jail in connexion with this work;

(*e*) whether wrong wall boxes were purchased and fixed and then removed and replaced by new ones;

(*f*) whether a large number of manholes than were actually necessary, were purchased;

(*g*) whether cast-iron columns were first purchased and fixed and then removed to be replaced by a partition wall;

(*h*) whether there was delay in purchasing oil for running the engine;

(*i*) what is the amount of loss suffered by the Jail and whether any portion of this amount was recovered from the Deputy Director; and

(*j*) whether the hon. Minister will take any, and, if so, what action on the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No complaint was received from the Executive Engineer.

(*d*) None.

(*e*) Wall boxes originally supplied had to be removed and replaced by new ones.

(*f*) Yes, this resulted from a clerical error in the final plan prepared.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) There seems to have been some delay in the initial stage of the trial run.

(*i*) As the supplying firms took back the surplus articles and gave credit for them, the only additional expenditure was that involved in the cost of labour employed in removing the original wall boxes and replacing them by new ones, which was negligible.

(*j*) As the Director of Industries has already issued instructions with a view to prevent the recurrence of such errors, the Government do not propose to take any further action.

Action taken on the proposed items of work in the Industries Department, for 1928–29.

* 315 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing how far the items of work proposed to be undertaken during the year 1928–29, as

indicated in the report of the Department of Industries, Madras, for the year 1927-28, have been begun or are being carried out, at what cost, with what establishment, and with what prospects of success under the following heads :—

Industrial Engineering,
Textile Section,
Industrial Education,
Leather Research,
Kerala Soap Institute,
Madras Cottage Industries ?

A.—A statement showing the action taken on the several items of work included in the programme for 1928-29 is appended.[a]

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" With reference to the statement in Appendix XV, may I enquire why the question of the manufacture of essential oils in the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, has been dropped ? "

The hon Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Because of financial considerations."

Action taken on the recommendations of the Textile Committee.

* 316 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed by the Government on the various recommendations of the Textile Committee ; and

(*b*) whether in constituting the Textile Advisory Committee as recommended by the Committee, it is proposed to provide representation to the weavers' co-operative societies ?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 509, Development, dated 22nd March 1929, which was placed on the table of the House.

(*b*) The appointment of the Textile Advisory Committee is still under consideration, and the suggestion will be considered.

Appointment of a technically qualified man as the Director of Industries.

* 317 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) since what time the post of the Director of Industries has been held by Revenue officers or Indian Civil Service men ;

(*b*) whether the Retrenchment Committee has recommended that the post of the Director should be held by an officer of the department and not by a member of the Indian Civil Service ;

(*c*) whether any Government Order has been issued to the effect that this recommendation would be given due consideration when the post fell vacant ;

(*d*) if so, when this Government Order was issued and how often vacancies have occurred in this appointment after that ;

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[a] Printed as Appendix XV on pages 600-602 infra.